GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4108
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2000
SILICON VALLEY
ABDUL HAMID;RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA

Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating any steps to replicate the information technology industry to Silicon Valley;

(b) whether the Government have received any requests from any quarter to increase the growth target of Information Technology industry;

(c) if so, the particulars thereof; and

(d) the response of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN)
(a): The success of Entrepreneurs of Indian origin in Silicon Valley, USA provides a paradigm of exploiting India`s natural advantage in Information Technology industry. In this context, Government has taken various steps to establish integral links with successful Indian IT professionals in the Silicon Valley. These include: i) Signing of MoU with Stanford University, California which, inter alia, will facilitate identification of joint R&D Programme,incubation facilities exchange of professionals and Human Resource Development in the area of Information Technology.
ii) Setting up of a business centre at San Jose to liaison with NRIs in the Silicon Valley. iii) Setting up a Select Group of overseas Indian IT professionals based at Silicon Valley to provide input to the Government on policy and technology trends in the area of IT.
(b),(c) and (d): Government has been receiving from time to time various suggestions and input from different quarters to increase the target of rate of growth of Information Technology industry. The National Task Force set up by the Prime Minister has set target of US$ 50 billion for software exports and US$ 10 billion for hardware exports from the country by the year 2008. The Task Force has also set a target for penetration of computers in the country to a level of 20 per thousand by the year 2008 from the existing level of 3 per thousand.